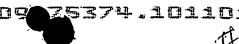
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ALIA AND AND

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit Examiner

Serial No.

09/975,374

Filed Inventors : October 10, 2001 : Michel Lazdunski

Gerard Lambeau

Emmanuel Valentin

Title

CLONING AND

: RECOMBINANT : EXPRESSION OF

MAMMALIAN GROUP

XII SECRETED

PHOSPHOLIPASE A₂

22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 1246

Docket No.: 1479-R-00

Dated: January 4, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits of the case, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification (Clean copy as amended)

Please replace paragraph 008 (second paragraph on page 3) with the following:

Al

[008] This invention relates to a mammalian secreted group XII sPLA₂ containing a potential Ca²⁺ binding segment (SEQ ID NO: 8) GCGSP.

Please replace paragraph 0010 (last paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4) with the following:

[0010] Fig. 1 represents the alignment of the amino acid sequences of sPLA₂s. In panel A, the full-length sequence of hGXII (SEQ ID NO: 2) is aligned with the amino acid sequences of mouse (SEQ ID NO: 10), rat (SEQ ID NO: 11), bovine (SEQ ID NO: 12) and

A2